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Application No. 08/999,604
Attorney's Docket No. 027545-840

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a code division multiple access system, data broadcast in a calling channel is formatted to enable idle mobile stations to predict when messages addressed to them are likely to be broadcast. As a result, the mobile stations can enter a power savings mode at other times. In an exemplary embodiment, a mobile station is assigned to a subgroup of data blocks to be transmitted on a calling channel. The subgroup of data blocks are encoded using a spread spectrum code assigned to the calling channel, and paging messages intended for the mobile station are transmitted in only the subgroup. Thus, parts of a receiver in the mobile station can be powered down when the subgroup of data blocks is not being transmitted.